

WELCOME TO
STAHL MENNONITE CHURCH

1201 Soap Hollow Rd, Johnstown, PA 15905

Pastor: Jayne Byler

Lay Leaders: Sonya Horsley, Joy Cotchen, Neil Lehman

Pastor Cell Phone: (330) 224-3944

Church Phone: (814) 288-5523

E-Mail: stahlmennonite@gmail.com

October 8, 2023

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE – 10:30 A.M.

Theme: Press On

Worship Leader: Carol McKool

Music: Stahl Musicians

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting the Peace Lamp

Gathering Song

Call to worship:

Leader: We come seeking Jesus, the light of the world!

People: Shine in our hearts, Lord Jesus!

Leader: We believe in the strength of God
to illuminate dark places.

People: The light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness shall not overcome it.

Leader: Lord, in this hour of worship,
kindle in us the light of your love.

People: Let your light shine in us, now and forever.

Carol Penner www.togetherinworship.net

Opening Prayer

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns: “*God of Love, Hear our Prayer*”
Singing

Focus Moment: Mennonite Economic Development Association video

Scripture: Philippians 3:4b-14

Sitting with the Scripture:

Take a moment to sit in silent reflection of what has just been read.

Let the words and the Spirit settle in your being.

Message from Ruth Leaman representing Mennonite Economic Development Association

Response:

Left: God of our side,

Right: and God of our enemies’ side,

All: hear our prayer:

we need your help here on planet earth.

With heavy hearts we confess

The brokenness on our beautiful blue planet.

Left: Hear the sound of gunfire,

Right: see the bomb craters,

Left: taste the bitterness of people hating people,

Right: smell the fear that permeates our lives,

All: touch the hearts of the wounded.

Left: Hear the sound of children being hurt,

Right: see people running away from their homes,

All: taste the hopelessness of shattered communities,

Left: smell the despair of refugee camps,

Right: touch the inconsolable on both sides.

All: Feel our pain as we spin through space.

Left: God of our side,

Right: and God of our enemies’ side,

All: you are the God of no sides at all.

You call us to a new place,

to step with faith outside this world of taking sides.

You lead us to an inside out world,

an upside-down kingdom,

Right: where our enemy is our brother,

Left: where our foe can be our fondest friend.

All: You call us from the sidelines to center stage,
to be a community of global resurrection.
firm believers in love that cannot die,
love that cannot be killed,
love that never lets us go.

Right: You call us to be firm believers
in the one who crossed heaven and earth

Left: to show us that even between God and human beings
All: there are no sides.

Right: It is in the name of Jesus Christ,
Left: whose arms embrace us all,
All: that we pray for peace today.
Amen

Sending Song

Sending Words: Philippians 3:14

Bulletin Editor for October: Shana Lichtenfels – (814) 288-0171

Front Table for October: Shana Lichtenfels

Outdoor Sign for October: Neil Lehman

St. Francis Sharing & Caring Item for October: Toilet Paper

Offering: 10/01/2023 – \$ 1,458.70 – General Fund

60.00 – MEDA

100.00 – Service Adventure

\$ 1,618.70 – Total

*****COMING EVENTS*****

October Mission Offering: MEDA (Mennonite Economic
Development Associaties)

Wed., Oct 11, 6:30: Church Council

Wed., Oct 18, 4:30-6:30: Soup Night returns!

Mon., Oct 23, 4:15: Vision Team

Sat., Nov 4: Allegheny Mennonite Conference Delegate Session,
Winchester, VA

Stahl Mennonite Church



Straining Forward to What Lies Ahead

Philippians 3:4b-14

*****NOTES & ANNOUNCEMENTS*****

Happy Birthday: Wish the following a Happy Birthday today or by sending them a card this week: Tues. Oct 10 – Abe Lehman; Wed. Oct. 11 – Pat Cotchen; Fri. Oct. 13 – Cara Lovenduski

Jayne hopes to be in the office on Wed. and Friday. She can be contacted at any time by calling or texting 330-224-3944 or emailing stahlmennonite@gmail.com.

Hearing assistance headphones are available at the back of the sanctuary.

We are trying some new ways to worship during the Sunday morning gatherings. One is an **Activity Table located in the back of the sanctuary, just under the nursery windows.** There are supplies there for children as well as other creative folks to use to help engage the morning worship with paper, color, or other art supplies. Anyone of any age is welcome to see what is there to enhance your worship. Please return any unused supplies to the table after worship ends.

Our October Mission Offering is MEDA (Mennonite Economic Development Associates). **Welcome to Ruth Leaman via zoom**, who will be sharing more about their work. MEDA is an international economic development organization that creates business solutions to poverty. The hope of MEDA is to help shape a world where all can thrive.

Totals have been finalized and **\$55,000 is on its way to MCC** for use around the world to provide hope and help. These monies are the result of your participation in the Springs and Johnstown/Davidsville area TriState Relief Sale benefits. Thanks to everyone for their support, hard work and generosity as you put hands, feet and heart into serving this ministry.

New address for Margaret Hillegass
10111 Riverview Dr.
Leo , IN 46765

Happy Birthday: Wish the following a Happy Birthday today or by sending them a card this week: Tues. Oct 10 – Abe Lehman; Wed. Oct. 11 – Pat Cotchen; Fri. Oct. 13 – Cara Lovenduski

Jayne hopes to be in the office on Wed. and Friday. She can be contacted at any time by calling or texting 330-224-3944 or emailing stahlmennonite@gmail.com.

Hearing assistance headphones are available at the back of the sanctuary.

We are trying some new ways to worship during the Sunday morning gatherings. One is an **Activity Table located in the back of the sanctuary, just under the nursery windows.** There are supplies there for children as well as other creative folks to use to help engage the morning worship with paper, color, or other art supplies. Anyone of any age is welcome to see what is there to enhance your worship. Please return any unused supplies to the table after worship ends.

Our October Mission Offering is MEDA (Mennonite Economic Development Associates). **Welcome to Ruth Leaman via zoom**, who will be sharing more about their work. MEDA is an international economic development organization that creates business solutions to poverty. The hope of MEDA is to help shape a world where all can thrive.

Totals have been finalized and **\$55,000 is on its way to MCC** for use around the world to provide hope and help. These monies are the result of your participation in the Springs and Johnstown/Davidsville area TriState Relief Sale benefits. Thanks to everyone for their support, hard work and generosity as you put hands, feet and heart into serving this ministry.

New address for Margaret Hillegass
10111 Riverview Dr.
Leo , IN 46765

Huge gratitude for the continued faithful financial giving to the work of this congregation. Electronic giving has proven to be a helpful way to continue regular offerings, even if you are unable to be here in person. See our website to get started if you haven't used this yet. (Remember that you can cover the cost of processing the donation as well.) As always, you are also welcome to give through the Sunday morning offering plate in the back of the sanctuary. Without the continued sharing of your gifts, financial or in your participation among us, this congregation would not continue.

Covid numbers are rising again. If you feel more comfortable masking to avoid possible exposure, please feel free to do so. We can all support one another in our efforts to remain healthy.

***** PRAYER REQUESTS*****

Jeff Cooper BK Horner Abe Lehman Lydia Lehman
Cara (Lichtenfels) Lovenduski Those touched by suicide.
Mary Ruth & Rand Zeigler & Family, accident in Belize (Jeanette's sister)
Dwight & Linda Gindlesperger Service Adventure Unit
Ron Telenko Gerry Fix (Joyce Telenko's Sister)
Ed Mackel Becky Mishler Family (Death)

Huge gratitude for the continued faithful financial giving to the work of this congregation. Electronic giving has proven to be a helpful way to continue regular offerings, even if you are unable to be here in person. See our website to get started if you haven't used this yet. (Remember that you can cover the cost of processing the donation as well.) As always, you are also welcome to give through the Sunday morning offering plate in the back of the sanctuary. Without the continued sharing of your gifts, financial or in your participation among us, this congregation would not continue.

Covid numbers are rising again. If you feel more comfortable masking to avoid possible exposure, please feel free to do so. We can all support one another in our efforts to remain healthy.

***** PRAYER REQUESTS*****

Jeff Cooper BK Horner Abe Lehman Lydia Lehman
Cara (Lichtenfels) Lovenduski Those touched by suicide.
Mary Ruth & Rand Zeigler & Family, accident in Belize (Jeanette's sister)
Dwight & Linda Gindlesperger Service Adventure Unit
Ron Telenko Gerry Fix (Joyce Telenko's Sister)
Ed Mackel Becky Mishler Family (Death)